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The Honorable W. Sterling Cole, Chairman
Joint Committee on Atomic Energy
Congress of the United States
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On May 21, 1953, you forwarded for comment a letter written to Senator Kennedy by [redacted] [redacted] speculating on the use of atomic energy as a primary source of power for the Moscow Subway. The Atomic Energy Commission has sent us a similar letter. [redacted] wrote to Senator Douglas.

As I noted before your Committee in the course of our recent briefing presentation, we believe the present objectives of the Soviet Atomic Energy Program are entirely military--primarily the production of weapons. Thus far we have seen no evidence of a major research program directed toward peaceful applications of atomic energy, nor have we detected any foundation in fact for Soviet propaganda to this effect. So far, this propaganda has been devoted to fabulous stories about moving mountains or changing the courses of rivers and has not played up the generation of power.

Rumors such as those mentioned by [redacted] have been the subject of investigation by intelligence personnel for several years, and no confirmation has ever been turned up. In the light of this, we are inclined to the view that, if the Soviets were able to substantiate any accomplishments in the peaceful application of atomic energy, they would take full advantage of the publicity value of such success.

We recognize the continuing deep interest of your Committee in matters such as this and will keep you currently informed of any changes in the situation.

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Sincerely yours,

Allen W. Dulles
Director

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Orig. & 1 cc - Addressee; 2 cc - Signer; 1 cc - [redacted] 1 cc - [redacted]

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